##

## 09/26/21

The One: The Crazy Story of Two Lost Boys

# Luke 15:11-32

The Crowd: 1. Tax Collectors and Sinners - Non-religious People

2. Pharisees and Scribes - Religious People

3 Stories: 1. The Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7) 2. The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10) 3. The Lost Sons (Luke 15:11-32)

YOUNGER SON = Non-Religious People - (Tax Collectors/Sinners)

OLDER SON = Religious People - (Pharisees and Scribes)

Lessons from The Lost Sons

## I. The Younger Son (Lost Far Away).

### 1. I won’t change until I get FED UP WITH MY LIFE.

“…he wasted it all…he had nothing left…he got desperate and hungry… **then he finally came to his senses,**…”
 Luke 15:13-17 (TLB)

[God] “When you come looking for Me, you’ll find Me. Yes, **when you get serious about finding Me** and want it more than anything else, I’ll make sure **you won’t be disappointed**.” Jeremiah 29:13 (Msg)

### 2. I have to own up to MY SIN.

“When he came to his senses, he said…’I have sinned against God and you…” Luke 15:17-18 (NLT)

“But **if we confess our sins** to Him [God], He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.” 1 John 1:9 (NLT)

### **3. I have to GIVE MYSELF to God.**

“…I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.” Luke 15:19 (NLT)

“…give your bodies to God… Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him.” Romans 12:1 (NLT)

## II. The Older Son (Lost at Church).

### 1. There is danger in becoming UNRESPONSIVE to God and UNCONCERNED for lost people.

[son] “…these many years I have been serving you;…But as soon as this son of yours came…you killed the fatted calf…” Luke 15:29-30 (NKJV)

### 2. There is danger in thinking being “religious” is the same as FOLLOWING JESUS.

“But he [older son] was angry and **would not go in**...You never gave me a young goat…” Luke 15:28-29 (NKJV)

* Difference between acknowledging Jesus and loving and following Jesus.

### 3. I have to GIVE MYSELF to God.

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.” Matthew 16:24 (NLT)

Next Steps

**I will:**

Commit my life to Jesus Christ. This is a…

First time commitment to Christ. Renewed commitment to Christ.

Identify myself in this story = younger son, older son, fattened calf (JK), dad who runs.

Give myself to God as much as I know how.

Bring someone to church next week.

Sign up for Class 101 on October 10th at 9:30am in H2.

*Keep the conversation going…*

1. Who do you identify with most in the story and why?
2. We aren’t told how the crowd responds to Jesus’ story.
What do you guess happens?
3. What do you think God wants **you** to do in response
to this story?
4. What would it look like if you were to act like the “dad who runs?” What would you do?